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INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/02/2016

TAGS: PREL ECON ETRD BA REGION ECTRD

SUBJECT: BAHRAIN: UPCOMING CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE MEETING

REF: STATE 180280

Classified By: DCM Susan L. Ziadeh for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Pol/Econ Chief November 1 delivered reftel demarche concerning the upcoming Arab League Central Boycott Office meeting to MFA Assistant Under Secretary for Coordination and Follow Up Shaikh Abdul Aziz bin Mubarak Al Khalifa. Shaikh Abdul Aziz affirmed that Bahrain would not attend the upcoming meeting, as it has not attended the past several boycott office meetings. Bahrain has made a strategic decision in support of its national interests not to enforce the Arab League boycott and it does not attend boycott office meetings. "We pursue a path that it most beneficial to the economy of Bahrain," Shaikh Abdul Aziz said. He promised to monitor the issue closely.

Visit Embassy Manama's Classified Website: http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/nea/manama/

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